

*Col. Peter Force*

VOL. XLII No. 4.

THE  
**AFRICAN REPOSITORY,**  
AND  
**COLONIAL JOURNAL.**

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*Published by order of the  
Managers of the American Colonization Society.*

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**APRIL 1837.**

WHOLE NO.

**CXLVI.**

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*The profits arising from this Work, will be devoted to the cause of  
the Colonization Society.*

Price two Dollars per year, payable in advance.

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**WASHINGTON:**

**JAMES C. DUNN, E St., NEAR THE GENERAL POST-OFFICE.**

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Postage, if not over 100 miles, *three cents*; any greater distance, *five cents*.

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VOL. XIII.]

APRIL, 1837.

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CAPT. NICHOLSON'S REPORT.

THE politeness of the Secretary of the Navy enables us present to our readers the following interesting letter from Capt. J. I. NICHOLSON of the U. S. Navy, giving the result of his observations during a recent visit to the several American Colonial Settlements in Africa. The view which it exhibits of their condition is, on the whole, highly encouraging, and cannot fail to confirm the confidence and animate the exertions of the friends of African Colonization. Capt. NICHOLSON, it will be seen, is of opinion that the prosperity of Monrovia has been impaired by a neglect of Agriculture for the pursuit of trade. This is an evil which has long been apparent to the Managers of the Parent Institution; and they have endeavoured to arrest its progress by such regulations and moral influences as could be brought to bear on the object. The expediency of the means employed is visible in an increased attention to agriculture among the citizens of Monrovia; though the period has not yet arrived when full success can be expected to attend those means.

The beneficial results already experienced from the visit of the ship *Potomac* will highly gratify the enemies of the Slave Trade, and especially such of them as are friendly to Colonization. The obvious and proved tendency of periodical visits from our National Vessels of War to the Western Coast of Africa, to restrain that detestable traffic, will, it is hoped, induce the Government to direct such visits to be made as often as the interest of the public service may permit.

U. S. SHIP POTOMAC, }  
RIO DE JANEIRO, 8th January, 1837. }

SIR,—I have the honour to inform you that we arrived at Cape Messurado on the 20th November, whence we sailed for Bassa Cove on the 27th, and to make the following report of its state as far as I could ascertain from my own observation, the reports of the authorities at Monrovia, and the information derived from the officers of the ship.

Its elevated location was selected with judgment; it may be effectually fortified, and the anchorage is good. The population is about one thousand, and their exports amount to seventy-five thousand dollars annually, in camwood, ivory, palm oil, and a few hides; but at

present their trade is much depressed in consequence of the wars among the natives. The forests abound with medicinal herbs, gums, and valuable wood of almost every description. About seventy-five vessels touch there annually, of which one-third are Americans.— Their agriculture appears to have been neglected, owing they say to the pecuniary embarrassment of the people and the want of cattle and agricultural instruments. Cotton, coffee, indigo, and the richest sugar-cane are indigenous to the soil; and with encouragement and industry, could be produced in any quantities. The salubrity of the climate is found to increase, as the forests are cleared away. Vegetables of many kinds may be raised in plenty; and hogs, sheep, goats and cows, appear to thrive. Fish in abundance are found in the streams, and it is generally admitted that a very comfortable subsistence can be procured by any man of moderately industrious habits. But they complain that the want of capital prevents the farmer from raising a surplus.

The slave trade within the three last years has seriously injured the colony. Not only has it diverted the industry of the natives in the vicinity from agriculture and trade, but it has effectually cut off the communication with the interior; the war parties being in the habit of plundering and kidnapping for slaves all whom they meet, whether parties to the war or not. The daring of the slaver increases with the demand for slaves, which could not of late be supplied by the usual means. The slavers have, therefore, excited the natives to war, by the distribution of their goods, an appeal to their avarice which is but too successful, and within a year four slave factories have been established almost within sight of the colony. But the colonists say they are deterred from marching to destroy them, by the certain revenge to which their helpless trading vessels are exposed. If the slavers were kept from the coast, which, I am informed, could be effected, if the colony possessed an armed vessel, to be manned by their own people, this cause of four-fifths of the wars would be removed, and the natives would return to their peaceful pursuits.

It is complained, that many of the emigrants are forced to expend what little capital they may have in erecting their buildings, &c., and to resort to petty traffic for immediate subsistence, to the neglect of the slower returns of agriculture; and that the drain of the inhabitants of Monrovia to form the other settlements, has been a serious obstacle to its growth. Some of the officers who have been here before, tell me that it is evidently not so prosperous as it was at their former visit, which I would ascribe to the neglect of agriculture for the pursuit of trade, which being now cut off by the native wars, has left them without resources. The traders, too, who arrive upon the coast, fearing no competition, and knowing their necessities, demand exorbitant profits, which are again increased by the traders on shore before the articles reach the customers, whose earnings are thus absorbed. It appears to me that it would be advantageous to all parties, if the Society should place their public store on such a footing as would enable the agent to issue at a moderate profit to the colonists, the groceries and clothing for which they now pay so dearly, without, however, prejudicing the interests of the fair tra-

der. The monopolist could not then take advantage of their necessities, and their earnings might be saved to them for the improvement of their lands.

It is important that a greater proportion of farmers be sent among them, for on the product of the soil by their own labour must the settlers mainly depend.

Doctor Dodd, the Surgeon of the ship, who ascended the river, informs me, that about four miles from Monrovia on the Stockton river is the settlement of New Georgia; it contains about two hundred and fifty inhabitants, re-captured Africans, who are devoted to agriculture. The soil is good, easily cultivated, and amply repays the labourer.— This settlement is *certainly in advance of the others* in agriculture.— Caldwell, another of the settlements, is about three miles above New Georgia; it extends about four miles along the south bank of the St. Paul river, and contains about four hundred inhabitants. The soil is good and in a tolerably good state of cultivation. Thirteen miles above Caldwell is Millsburg, finely located on the same river, and flourishing, the soil equally fertile and the climate more salubrious than the others; it contains about three hundred well contented inhabitants.

The schools at the settlements are generally well attended; the children make very good progress. The morals of the upper settlements generally stand fair. We arrived at Bassa Cove on the 29th of November, and I have great pleasure in saying, that those who visited the shore were agreeably surprised at the progress that had been made in clearing away the land, laying out streets, draining a piece of low ground, and building houses, as well for the actual settlers, as for those who are expected. The present inhabitants are most of the re-united remains of the first settlers, whose defenceless situation had been taken advantage of by the natives, to pillage and burn their houses, and murder a number of men, women and children. The Commissioner, Mr. Buchanan, deserves more praise than my report may confer upon him for having re-established them. Eleven months only have elapsed since Bassa Cove was a dense wilderness, and it now exhibits the evidence of a thriving village, and of an industrious people, obedient to the laws, and understanding their interest in maintaining them.

The schools appear to be well attended by the adults and children, of which the necessary good effects will be felt in their moral influence over the natives. The town is beautifully situated on the southern side of the St. John river, at its mouth, about fifty-five miles S. E. of Monrovia, enjoying the sea breeze every day. The Benson river is in its rear, abounding with fish and oysters, and the land in the neighborhood is favourable to agriculture. The population is about one hundred and fifty souls, occupying forty dwelling houses, effectually defended by the well placed pieces of artillery. The good understanding with the natives had been occasionally interrupted by the influence of the slavers: but on the appearance of this ship, all differences were settled by a treaty between Mr. Buchanan and the neighboring Princes, or head men, obliging themselves to renounce the slave trade forever, and to be obedient to the laws of the Colony, as far as applicable to their condition.



Edina is situated on the other side of the mouth of the same river; it contains about two hundred inhabitants, chiefly from Monrovia, and the other settlements, and was occupied about four years ago. The inhabitants are industriously disposed, but have made very little progress in developing the resources of the soil, from their passion to traffic with the natives, the prevailing error of most of the settlers. Their exports last year amounted to nearly twelve thousand dollars in camwood and other articles procured from the natives.

It appears that they are awaking (from the example of Bassa Cove) to a sense of their true interests, in the cultivation of the soil, and there can be no doubt of their ultimate success.

We proceeded to Cape Palmas, a distance of 220 miles from Cape Messurado, where we anchored on the 15th December, and found Harper, the name of the town, advantageously situated on the height of the cape, enjoying daily a fine sea breeze, to which and the cleared land in the vicinity, I would attribute the fact that the settlers have found this place much less unhealthy than the other settlements.—They appear to have profited by the errors of the older colonists, in avoiding as yet all trade with the natives of the interior, and devoting their whole energies to agriculture. In due time a large and profitable trade in camwood, ivory, rice and palm oil, will reward their prudent forbearance. 5000 bushels of rice and 150 puncheons of palm oil, I am informed, can now be procured in the season. Beasts of burden are much wanted to lighten the toil of cultivation, and experiments are making with the native oxen, a small breed.

The population is about one hundred and ninety, occupying fifty-four houses, and arrangements are already made for the reception in good houses of two hundred more until they can occupy their farms which are laid out for about three miles from the Cape on each side of the Maryland Avenue.

They have already in cultivation forty-seven farms, generally of five acres, on most of which the proprietors reside; and a model farm of fifty acres partly under cultivation. The limits of the settlement extend from Rocktown to the Cavally river, a distance of twenty-five miles on the sea board; up that river forty miles to Denah, at the head of navigation, where it is intended to strike that river by the Maryland Avenue, and from Rocktown to about fifteen miles in the interior. About five miles of the country may be traversed in different directions over good roads.

There are two native towns of two thousand inhabitants, between Harper and the farms, under the command of King Freeman, but the colonists appear to be on very good terms with all the Kings and people of the neighborhood, and I cannot refrain from expressing my agreeable surprise, at the evidence of industry and foresight that were exhibited through the settlement—so much have they advanced in solid prosperity in the short space of three years. Its location is decidedly superior to either of the other settlements, in climate and facility of landing; the soil is equally fertile, and the surrounding country as capable of cultivation. Fish and oysters of excellent quality are found in abundance, and vegetables of various kinds may be raised in any quantities.



The ship was visited by King Freeman and King War; the latter is at the head of a powerful tribe in the interior. They were so much astonished at her size, that for want of language to convey their impressions to their friends, they measured her length and breadth with fishing lines.

The Chart erroneously surrounds the Cape with rocks, but on sounding with our boats, we found no danger but the rocks near the shore, which are visible, and a rock bearing N. W. Westerly from the town about two miles distant, and it may be entered in perfect safety.

The only Missionary establishment I had an opportunity of visiting was that of the Rev. Mr. WILSON, who has about one hundred of the native children of different towns under his charge, and a few adults. I was pleased at the correctness with which many of them read from English books; and as some of them are the sons of Kings, and may be Kings themselves in time, it is impossible to foresee the happy effect upon the civilization of the Africans, that may be produced by this school. It is to be regretted that this gentleman has not other Missionaries to assist him in his useful labours. The respective colonies being much in want of arms, ammunition, &c., for their defence, received from this ship in accordance with the instructions from the Department, all the aid that their circumstances seemed to require.

We left Cape Palmas on the 18th December, and proceeded on our way to Rio de Janeiro, where we arrived yesterday in twenty days passage. If I may be allowed to express an opinion, founded on the information and reports of others and my own observations, I would say that it is of the greatest importance to have white agents at the respective settlements, gentlemen of general information and firmness of character. Not only do they command more respect from the Kings and natives of the country, but the colonists themselves more readily submit to their government. I would further say that the Colonies have now taken firm root in the soil of Africa, and though they may be depressed at times by adversity, yet by the gradual development of their resources, and the judicious assistance of their friends, they must finally flourish, to be an asylum to the coloured man, and an honour to their founders.

I have the honour to be very respectfully, your ob't st.

J. I. NICHOLSON, Captain.

To the Honorable MAHLON DICKERSON,  
Secretary of the Navy, Washington City.

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REPORT AND RESOLUTIONS, IN THE LEGISLATURE OF ILLINOIS, AT THE SESSION OF 1836—1837, ON THE SUBJECT OF SLAVERY.

The joint select committee to which was referred the memorials of the General Assemblies of the States of Virginia, Alabama, Mississippi, New York and Connecticut, relative to the existence of domestic slavery in a portion of the States of the United States, have duly considered the same, and now beg leave to

REPORT:

That they fully appreciate the feelings of anxiety and alarm, which had been produced in the slaveholding states, by the misguided and incendiary movements of the Abolitionists. They deeply regret that causes of excitement should have

been given, and are truly solicitous to aid, by all proper means, in quieting apprehensions upon the subject of slavery, and in suppressing the causes from which it has arisen. They unanimously concur in the opinion that the purposes of the abolitionists are highly reprehensible, and that their ends, even if peaceably attained, would be productive of the most deleterious consequences to every portion of our Union. But it is believed, that instead of succeeding in their wild and visionary schemes, the advocacy and dissemination of their doctrines and opinions have been, and will continue to be, most disastrous to the slaves.

Your Committee cannot conceive how any true friend of the *black man* can hope to benefit him through the instrumentality of abolition societies. Before their organization, changes were rapidly making in public opinion, of a character the most favourable to the melioration of the condition of the coloured population. Throughout the slave states they had already been elevated in morality and intelligence, far above the low estate of their fathers, and hundreds in their native land. Not only was their condition as slaves made far more tolerable than it had been, but the bosom of the christian and philanthropist dilated with increasing hope, that the time was fast approaching, whereby the resistless power of public opinion, operating through Colonization Societies, and with the assent of their present owners, they should be released from thralldom, and returned moral and intelligent to their own benighted land, there to scatter the blessings of liberty, science and religion. Contemplating the subject in this aspect, the hearts of christian freemen yielded a willing assent to the belief, that Providence, in its inscrutable wisdom, would through the agency of slaves, effect the moral redemption of the benighted, from pagan darkness, idolatrous darkness, and barbarism. This hope arose brilliantly before us, and guided by its light, we turned in imagination from the miserable abodes of wretchedness and squalid want, which have heretofore denoted the habitation of the emancipated black man in America, to the contemplation of a nation of freemen, scattered over "Africa's sunny shores" enjoying in peace, the blessings of civilized life. The intelligent slave, (for such there are) instead of deploring his situation in America as the most hopeless and degraded, rejoiced that his servitude was to be the precursor of freedom and happiness, to his kindred beyond the ocean.

These are a few of the desirable results which we confidently believe would have been produced by the Colonization Societies, had they been permitted to pursue, undisturbed, the even tenor of their ways. They violated no public law, outraged no private right, appealed to no vulgar prejudices, excited no angry and malicious feelings. They were silently but surely winning their way upon public opinion, and entwining powerfully around the affections of the people. We may now ask where are the hopes that brightened upon the philanthropist; where the prospect of liberty that gladdened the heart of the slave; and where the energies of the voluntary associations which promised him release from his manacles? Your committee turn with feelings of sincere regret to the abolition societies, and bid you seek there a ready answer to all. These societies have forged new irons for the black man, and added an hundred fold to the rigor of slavery. They have scattered the firebrands of discord and disunion among the different states of the confederacy. They have excited the most rancorous and embittered feelings of the same community. They have aroused the turbulent passions of the monster mob; whose actions are marked by every deed of atrocity, and whose fury has not discriminated in the selection of its victim. They have threatened the violation of the sacred rights of private property, and have pertinaciously insisted on doctrines, which if reduced to practice, would deluge our common country in blood, rend the Union asunder, and bring desolation upon all that was won by the valor and hallowed by the blood of our fathers. The corrective of these opinions, is to be sought for at the bar of public opinion, and your committee confidently believe that that tribunal will finally and powerfully pronounce the rebuke which is so richly merited, and allay all further cause of alarm and anxiety.

We hold that the citizens of the slaveholding states, are no more answerable for the existence of slavery, than are those of the non-slaveholding states. It was introduced by our common ancestry, and came from them to us, with the inviolable charter of our liberty, as a part of our heritage.

Our constitution, which was the result of a spirit of amity, and that mutual deference and concession, which the peculiarity of our political situation rendered indispensable, recognizes its existence in express terms, and certainly guarantees to the states where it does exist, its continuance, without interference by the Na-

tional Government. No rights which were not surrendered by the States, at the formation of the constitution, can now be wrested from them, and any effort to direct them, must be regarded as a violation of that sacred instrument. We would say in the language of the immortal Washington: "Let every violation of the constitution be reprehended; if defective let it be amended, but not suffered to be trampled upon, while it has an existence." Whilst we therefore deeply deplore the condition of the unfortunate race of our fellow men, whose lots are cast in thralldom, in a land of liberty and peace, we hold that the arm of the General Government has no power to strike their fetters from them; we are confident that an overwhelming majority of our fellow citizens, would spurn indignantly the man who would urge upon them an interference with the rights of property of other states. We believe that the people of Illinois are sincerely attached to the federal constitution, and that they would not tamely submit to its open infraction. We believe that they have a deep regard and affection, for our brethren of the south and that upon any proper occasion they would fly to their assistance. But as your committee are not aware of the extensive existence of abolition societies in this state, they deem a decided expression of opinion, all that is at this time demanded.

1st. *Resolved, by the General Assembly of the State of Illinois, That we sincerely deplore the evils of Abolition societies, and that we firmly believe their doctrines and proceedings are more productive of evil than moral or political good.*

2d. *Resolved, That the right of property in slaves, is secured to the slaveholding states by the Federal Constitution, and that they cannot be deprived of that right without their consent.*

3d. *Resolved, That the institution of slavery, as forming a part of the civil and domestic economy of the slaveholding states, consistent with the Federal and State constitutions, cannot, nor ought not, to be interfered with by any independent authority, Federal or State, other than those in which the slavery exists, and further, that we are fully convinced, that the disturbance or abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia, by Congress, would be unwise, injudicious, and highly inexpedient, and that we therefore, would much regret to see this institution abolished in that District, and particularly under circumstances, threatening danger to the general safety of the slaveholding states and the Union.*

4th. *Resolved, That the Governor of this State be requested to transmit to the states of Virginia, Alabama, Mississippi, New York and Connecticut, a copy of the foregoing report and resolutions.*

JAMES SEMPLE, *Speaker of the H. R.*  
WM. H. DAVIDSON, *Speaker of the Senate.*

A correct copy:

A. P. FIELD, *Secretary of State.*

#### TRIBUTE OF RESPECT.

The following Resolutions were passed by the Young Men's Colonization Society of Pennsylvania, in regard to the course pursued by the Rev. Robt. J. Breckinridge in his late discussion with George Thompson, in Glasgow, Scotland.

1. *Resolved, That the conduct of the Rev. Robert J. Breckinridge, in volunteering a defence of the character of his country, in a late discussion in England on a subject of great national interest, and this too against an overwhelming tide of popular prejudice, presents an example of moral courage and elevated patriotism, above all praise, and entitles him to the gratitude of his countrymen.*

2. *Resolved, As the common mode of expressing thanks for eminent services, by the presentation of plate, would not properly express the estimation in which he is held by us, as a Christian patriot, and philanthropist, that the grateful thanks of this Society, be presented to him for his timely and noble defence of African Colonization, against the unfounded and malignant aspersions of its foreign foes.*

3. *Resolved, That the editors of daily and religious papers be requested to insert the masterly letter of Mr. Breckinridge to Dr. Wardlaw, of Glasgow, on the subject of the discussion on Slavery between George Thompson and himself;—that these resolutions also be inserted in the daily and religious papers;—and that copies be forwarded to the New York Colonization Society, the Maryland Colonization Society, and to the American Colonization Society.*



## COLONIZATION SKETCHES.

A series of Essays, under the title of Colonization Sketches, is now in the course of publication in the Petersburg Intelligencer, Va. They are understood to be from the pen of a distinguished citizen of Virginia, and contain much authentic information, a portion of which has not heretofore been generally known, concerning the history of African Colonization. We now republish the two first numbers, and propose to republish the remaining numbers next month.

## No. I.

An hundred cities claim that Homer, dead,  
Through which the living Homer begged his bread!

After having been misrepresented because misunderstood; after having been despised as insignificant, derided as visionary and denounced as fanatical; after having been represented in the North as a device of Southern slaveholders for rivetting more firmly than ever the chains of slavery, and in the South as a Yankee notion as deceptive but by no means as harmless, as horn gunflints—as an institution uttering no language but that of piety and benevolence, whilst its legitimate effects are spoliation and slaughter; after all this the Colonization Society has within a few years attracted to itself the confidence, and drawn forth the affection of a large majority of the candid, the wise, and the good, of our country. If it shall continue thus to grow in public favor, we have no doubt that the time is not distant when the inquisitive will seek to ascertain in whose mind the bright conception was first entertained as eagerly as it is now asked, who first conceived the thought of propelling vessels by the power of steam. Even now that question begins to be asked. Various answers have been given. Dr. Finley of New Jersey, Dr. Thornton of Washington City, and Granville Sharp, have all been named. In a speech delivered at the meeting of the Virginia Colonization Society last year, and lately republished in the Enquirer, the first action of a public body on the subject, is ascribed to the Virginia Legislature in 1800. Mathew Carey, in his letters on the American Colonization Society, (a pamphlet filled with interesting information on this subject, from which, in the progress of these sketches we expect to borrow largely) says that as early as the year 1777, Mr. Jefferson proposed to our Legislature (to be incorporated in our revised code,) a plan for colonizing the free coloured population of the United States. It shall be our endeavor to give honor, on this subject, to whom honor is due.

And first, we incline to the opinion that Robert Finley stands in nearly the same relation to this enterprise which Robert Fulton occupies in Steam Navigation, or Robert Raikes to Sunday Schools.—The seminal thought may have been previously conceived by some other mind, but it was these distinguished benefactors of their race, who, each in his own high track of usefulness, reduced the noble conception from speculation to action. The discoveries and experiments of Rumsey were well nigh forgotten, when Fulton arose. The Sunday Schools of Franke had not extended themselves very widely even in Germany, and had scarcely been heard of in Britain, when



Raikes commenced his course of labors in behalf of youthful Sabbath breakers in the city of Gloucester. The previous resolutions of the Virginia Legislature had been as fruitless as the suggestions of Jefferson or Thornton, and we have little reason to believe that those which were adopted contemporaneously with the formation of the Colonization Society, would have availed much more, but for this last named institution. Of this, Finley was no doubt the projector and the founder. To this subject we shall by-and-by recur.

But whilst we will not withhold the meed of praise so justly due to Dr. Finley, we must still claim for Virginia the honour of originating the thought of colonizing our free people of colour. And we believe Mr. Carey to be right in tracing it back to the distinguished Thomas Jefferson. It will not render the enterprise less acceptable to Virginia readers, nor diminish their confidence in its wisdom to know, that in projecting this stupendous plan he probably stood not alone, but that his associates were among the purest and wisest of those statesmen and patriots whose fame constitutes the most precious national wealth of Virginia. What we know on this subject is derived from his notes, and the statements are a little deficient in precision, yet these facts are unquestionable:

That Thomas Jefferson, Edmund Pendleton, George Wythe, George Mason, and Thomas Ludwell Lee, were appointed by the first Legislature which sat after the Declaration of Independence, to revise the laws of the State and report to the General Assembly—That after the plan of the work had been settled, and in a considerable degree carried into execution, Mr. Lee died and Mr. Mason resigned his office. That the report of the revisors was made by Messrs. Jefferson, Pendleton and Wythe in 1779, but not acted on till 1784 or 1785.

In speaking of the alterations proposed, Mr. Jefferson specifies one, which included a most comprehensive plan of Colonization of the coloured people, though it was connected with another subject with which the Colonization Society has never meddled. According to this plan, all people of colour born after the passage of the act, were to be free; to be properly brought up under the supervision of the public, and when they grew up, to be colonized to such places as the circumstances of the time should render most proper. Mr. Jefferson tells us that the bill reported by the revisors, does not contain this proposition; but an amendment containing it was prepared, to be offered to the Legislature whenever the bill should be taken up. From his language there would seem to be little doubt that this was the joint plan of at least himself, Pendleton and Wythe; and from the facts above stated, as to Messrs. Mason and Lee (which are derived from the report of the revisors) it is highly probable that those gentlemen, whilst belonging to the board, had expressed their concurrence in the propositions. If this be true, how illustrious is the origin of African Colonization! It claims as its authors, THOMAS JEFFERSON, whose fame has filled the civilized world; EDMUND PENDLETON and GEORGE WYTHE, high in the first rank of their country's Orators, Jurists, Statesmen, Patriots, and still more eminent for personal purity, than for station or talent,—the Mansfield and the Hale of Virginia; GEORGE MASON, perhaps the wisest Statesman to whom Virginia has

given birth, and THOMAS LUDWELL LEE, who was deemed by a Virginia Legislature of 1776, a fit associate of Jefferson, Pendleton, Wythe and Mason! Surely there was a peculiar and graceful consistency and propriety in the fact that a germ having such an origin should have been caught up, and pruned of its excrescences, and cherished and watered by Bushrod Washington, and Madison, and Monroe, and Marshall, and Clay, and Crawford! May it become a great tree, blessing two continents with its shade and its fruit!

Mr. Carey is mistaken in supposing that this plan was ever proposed to the Legislature, as well as in the opinion that it referred to the "free coloured population of the United States." It would have been manifestly improper that our Legislature should interfere with the population of any state but Virginia; and even of our own, the free coloured people formed at that time so small a proportion, that they were probably little thought of in forming the plan. Strange as it may seem to some of our readers, the venerable St. George Tucker, than whom few were better qualified to judge, says that it would be a large allowance to suppose that there were 2,800 free negroes and mulattoes in Virginia in 1782, when the law passed authorizing emancipation without the restrictions previously existing. In 1791, there were fewer than 13,000, now there are more than 50,000.

Why the plan of the revisors was never proposed to the Legislature, we know not. Various conjectures have been made, and if we were to add one, it would be that because the free people of colour were so very few, the plan of general emancipation distasteful to the people and the Legislature, no suitable site for the colony known, and the attention of the revisors otherwise engaged, the amendment was never offered. It must be remembered that though the report was made in 1779, it was not acted on till 1785, and that at that time, Mr. Jefferson, who was probably the most zealous on this subject, was in France, and Messrs. Pendleton and Wythe fully engaged in their high judicial stations. Whether Mr. Mason was, at that moment in public life, we do not know. Mr. Lee had then been long dead.

The plan of Mr. Jefferson and his venerable colleagues was mentioned by him in the Notes on Virginia, whilst he was the American Minister in France. It is probable that this suggested to Dr. Thornton the plan which in 1787, he laid before the free coloured people in Massachusetts and Rhode Island. He proposed to establish a Colony on the western coast of Africa, and invited them to accompany him. "A sufficient number," says Mr. Carey, "consented to do so, and were prepared for the expedition. But the project failed in consequence of the want of funds. The public mind was not then prepared for affording pecuniary support."

Some years after this, the benevolent Granville Sharpe, moved with compassion for the sufferings of some free negroes with whom he met in London, proposed the establishment of a Colony for them. It was accordingly planted at Sierra Leone. To this was sent in the first instance, the remnant of the slaves who had been taken by the British forces from their masters during the Revolutionary War, and who, in the ungenial climate of Nova Scotia were rapidly perishing. The

Maroons from Jamaica were added to that colony at a subsequent period. After many years of adversity, it is believed that this colony is now flourishing, though much less than that of Liberia.

The action of our own Legislature on this subject, we propose to present in our next paper.

#### No. II.

In the session of 1800-1, Resolutions were adopted by our Legislature, somewhat indefinite in their form, but intended to lead to the procuring of a territory to be settled by our free coloured people.— This occasioned a correspondence between Mr. Monroe, then our governor, and Mr. Jefferson, shortly after his becoming President of the United States. This correspondence having been submitted to the Legislature at their next session, they adopted resolutions of similar character but more explicit than those of the previous year. The correspondence to which the last resolutions led, we have never seen, nor have we seen another resolution on the same subject adopted in the session of 1803-4. But from the manner in which it was spoken of, in a letter from President Jefferson to John Page, then Governor of the State, it was unquestionably of like character with those which preceded it. Before the next winter Louisiana was purchased, and at the very next session, our legislature took steps to obtain there a territory for our free coloured people.

The spoliations of France and England on our commerce soon afterwards, drew off the attention of Virginia from almost every other subject of political interest. These spoliations and the impressment of our seamen led at last to the war with Britain. This war terminated in 1815. In 1816, the legislature returned to the subject, from which the events to which we have referred had for a season drawn off their attention. In December 1816, with only seven dissenting voices in the lower House, and one in the Senate, a resolution was adopted, the object of which was to obtain some territory on the coast of Africa, or elsewhere, as an asylum for our people of colour, then free or thereafter to be emancipated. The executive were requested to correspond with the President on this subject, and our representatives in both Houses of Congress were asked to lend their aid. Perhaps this action of the Legislature of his native state, just at the close of his presidential term, fostered in the patriotic bosom of Madison, that strong attachment to the society over which he afterwards presided, which he carried with him to his grave. Two days after the adoption of this resolution, the meeting was held in Washington, which resulted in the establishment of the American Colonization Society. Of this we shall hereafter speak more particularly, but we judge it expedient to continue without interruption our rapid view of the action of Virginia on this subject.

The Executive of the United States, under a law to be hereafter mentioned, were under the necessity of seeking an asylum for Africans unlawfully brought into the United States as slaves. They therefore acted in concert with the Colonization Society in their successful efforts to obtain a territory in Africa. No doubt it was supposed that when this object had been effected, and that territory procured, which



during twenty years our Legislature had so repeatedly and so earnestly sought for, that Virginia would step forward in her strength and either take the whole matter into her own hands, or if she preferred to use the instrumentality of the Colonization Society, would sustain that institution in its operations, with a liberality worthy of her character, as the first (in the estimation of her sons at least) of the sisterhood of American Commonwealths. But this hope was doomed to disappointment, only temporary we trust, yet most sorely felt. Before the Society had procured a territory in Africa, a state of things had arisen in this country entirely new to our experience and threatening the most ruinous consequences. The first blast of that storm of fanaticism which has since swept through our land with hurricane fury, had just burst upon us in the angry discussions connected with the application of Missouri for admission to our Union. Unhappily the agitations excited by every discussion of this class of subjects, are so strong, the interests involved so important and yet so delicate, that many of our Southern people are led, whilst such agitation continues, to oppose all action, or even inquiry on any branch of the general subject. And yet what subject so well demands the patient, laborious investigation of the American, and especially the Virginia statesman?

The Missouri debate alarmed many of our citizens and greatly repressed the zeal for African Colonization which had begun to manifest itself. Hence it was that the only aid afforded to it by our Legislature, for a considerable time consisted of donations of goods, made in the years 1824 and 1825.

The Southampton insurrection convinced the Legislature and the people that (to use the words employed on that occasion by an able and zealous advocate in the Legislature of African Colonization, the lamented Broadnax,) "something must be done." The House of Delegates passed a very strong resolution on this subject, which the Senate did not sanction. But an act was passed appropriating \$18,000 per annum, for five years to this enterprise. Unhappily, however, it was so clogged with conditions that the donation has proved unavailing. The Virginia Colonization Society, of which Judge Marshall was President from its formation till his lamented death, and over which our late distinguished Senator, John Tyler, now presides, has recently resolved to settle a new Colony, or in the now antiquated language of our fathers, *a new plantation* in Western Africa, to be called New Virginia, and to furnish that *Asylum* to our free people of colour, which for seven and thirty years our Legislature have desired to procure for them. They have petitioned the Legislature to grant in furtherance of this object the \$18,000 already appropriated, and to take from the grant the conditions and limitations which have rendered it practically of no avail. Our fellow citizens in this town and many in other parts of the state have united in this petition.

In our next paper we shall treat more directly than we have yet done, of the origin and history of the Colonization Society, as distinguished from the origin and history of Colonization principles, to which last, this number and the preceding have been mainly devoted.



## THE MARYLAND STATE COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

The Fifth Annual Meeting of the Maryland State Colonization Society was held in Baltimore, March 8, 1837, in St. Peter's church in Sharp street. The chair was taken by FRANKLIN ANDERSON, Vice-President, and HUGH DAVEY EVANS, Secretary of the Board of Managers, acted as Secretary of the meeting. The exercises were opened by prayer by the Rev. Dr. HENSHAW.

The Fifth Annual Report was read, together with extracts from despatches and letters received from the Colony at Cape Palmas, by the recent arrival of the U. S. frigate Potomac. On motion of Z. COLLINS LEE, the Report was accepted, and the thanks of the Society were directed to be given to the Board of Managers for their able, energetic and successful administration of its concerns during the past year, and the publication of the Report and accompanying documents for distribution was requested. In offering his resolution, Mr. LEE took occasion, says the official account, "to deliver an interesting and eloquent address, in which the prominent views of the Colonization scheme were exhibited in strong relief, and happily illustrated."

Several other resolutions were adopted, among which were the following on motion of J. H. B. LATROBE:

*"Resolved,* That this society find in the experience of the past year, additional reasons for confidence in the system of State action, under which the State society has acted from its commencement, and that it be recommended to the friends of Colonization throughout the United States, who have not yet adopted it, to do so forthwith, as the best means of furthering the great object in view, so far as Africa and the African race are concerned, and as the surest method of counteracting the efforts of the misguided and ill-intentioned to make the subject of slavery one threatening the dissolution of the Union."

*"Resolved,* That the Board of Managers be requested, as soon as they deem it expedient, to take measures to procure a meeting of delegates from the American Colonization Society and States acting on the matter, with the view to the formation of a 'Central Colonization Convention,' where all matters of general interest touching the colonies of the societies composing the Convention, in Africa, may be determined upon, and whose decision on such matters shall be binding; leaving the State Societies in the United States to pursue their own course of policy at home, and to regulate the internal concerns of their respective colonies."

The resolutions just cited were seconded by FRANCIS S. KEY, of Washington city. In seconding them, says the official account,

"Mr. Key availed himself of the opportunity to deliver a most admirable discourse upon the subject of Colonization, in its peculiar and most interesting bearings upon the true and best interests of Maryland. For copious information, accumulated facts, close reasoning, happy illustration, and when the occasion called for it, lofty eloquence, the address of Mr. Key could hardly have been surpassed. As one of the earliest friends and most active promoters of the Colonization scheme, the presence of Mr. Key at the annual meeting of the State society, was highly gratifying."

Unless the speech here referred to differs from most others which we have heard from Mr. KEY, it fully deserves the praise bestowed on it. We trust that means were taken to preserve it, and that a correct report of it will be published. This is desirable not only on account of the high powers of the orator and the interest of the subject, but because it might otherwise be supposed that Mr. KEY coincided in a passage of the Report of the Managers, on which we shall

say a few words presently. This, we take it for granted, was not the case; and it would be a subject for deep regret that the opinions of such a man as Mr. KEY, identified moreover, as he is, with the history of African Colonization, and standing in the relation which he bears to the Parent Society, should be misunderstood.

The Report of the Managers presents an encouraging view of the condition and prospects of the Maryland Colony. Since the last Annual Report, two expeditions have sailed for it, "making the sixth" and seventh vessels which had been despatched with emigrants and supplies from Baltimore since the Society determined on the "establishment of a Colony for the use of the emigrants from Maryland." The schooner *Financier* left Baltimore with seventeen emigrants on the 9th of July, and the brig *Niobe* with thirty-two emigrants on the 31st of October following. The *Financier* carried home SIMLEH BALLA, the messenger or envoy, sent by the King of Cape Palmas, the principal chief of the native tribes on whose territories the Colony of the State Society was founded, to the Board of Managers. The *Niobe*, besides the emigrants, took out the Rev. DAVID WHITE and lady, Missionaries of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, and Dr. SAVAGE, Missionary of the Protestant Episcopal Church. An intelligent coloured man, educated as a printer, accompanied Mr. White, to work and manage the press, sent by the American Board to the Colony. DAVID JAMES, one of the emigrants from Cecil county, was appointed, before the *Niobe* sailed, Agent for the Protestant Methodist Church, with a view to prepare for the establishment of a mission at Cape Palmas, by that denomination of Christians.

The Managers express their satisfaction at the zeal and energy with which OLIVER HOLMES, temporary agent, had administered the affairs of their Colony, after Dr. HALL, its Governor, returned to the U. States. They describe the appointment which they had made of a successor to Gov. HALL in the person of JOHN B. RUSSWURM, a citizen of Monrovia, as one strongly recommended by the qualifications of the individual, and by the advantages incident, in their judgment, to the selection of a coloured man to manage the concerns of their Colony. On this latter point, a difference of opinion is known to exist among the friends of African Colonization; and especially, it would seem from Capt. NICHOLSON's Report, published in our present number, between that gentleman and the Managers of the Maryland Society. The benefits which they perceive in their course would undoubtedly be decisive, if not opposed by counteracting difficulties, arising chiefly from the immature political condition of the settlers. What is the relative force of these difficulties remains to be tested. So far as the success of the experiment depends on the personal merit of the party in whose instance it is tried, the choice of Mr. RUSSWURM must be considered as highly judicious. The Parent Society is not satisfied from information carefully sought after, and, it is believed, faithfully given, that the time has yet arrived when a similar experiment could be prudently attempted on its part.

To the Rev. IRA A. EASTER, Agent of the Maryland Colonization Society, and also Agent of the Maryland State Fund, appointed by

the Executive under the authority of an act of the Legislature, the shipment of emigrants, the care of the local correspondence, the superintendence and keeping of the Society's books, and other duties requiring the presence of an agent in Baltimore, have been assigned. The associate Agent, the Rev. JOHN H. KENNARD, travels throughout the State, spreading information, procuring emigrants, attending to preparations for their departure, and forming Auxiliary Societies whenever practicable.

There are 300 inhabitants at Cape Palmas, and missionary settlements established by four Christian Churches. Since the last Annual Report large acquisitions of territory have been made around it; and the State Society now owns both sides of the River Cavally, from its mouth to the town of Denah, about 30 miles from the ocean. The Agent, Dr. HALL, ascended the river to the cataracts at Fayè, and reached the mountain range which here runs parallel to the coast. A part of the same region was afterwards visited by Mr. WILSON, the Missionary at the Cape. Both those gentlemen ascribe inexhaustible fertility to the country. The present relations between the Colony and the natives in its neighbourhood are of a friendly character.

The Managers have it in view to procure during the current year a vessel of their own. In conducting the affairs of the Society from its commencement, they have had to rely on the support of the Managers of the State fund, when they failed to collect from the Public funds adequate to their wants. They design to raise by individual donations \$4000 a year for the next four years, which will enable them to do many things for the Colony in the advancement of agriculture, the promotion of education, and the introduction of a proper system of internal improvement. Full provision has been made to secure the education of the colonists, so far as mere legislation can effect it. The Managers are of opinion that education is the most important subject to which the attention of the female friends of Colonization can be directed; and on which their efforts may be concentrated with the happiest effect. They are invited in the Report to form themselves in Societies, and raise funds sufficient to commence a system of education in Africa, on a small scale, in the first place, as by establishing a single school, but capable of wide extension and usefulness.

The Managers anticipate good results from their recent ordinance making good merchantable cotton, the growth of the Colony, a legal tender, at ten cents a pound, and appointing inspectors to settle differences in regard to quality. The want of a currency serving the purpose of a circulating medium in the Colonies on the coast, has long been felt; and so far as the experience of Virginia and Maryland goes, a favorable issue may be predicted for the plan adopted for Cape Palmas. It is only within the last fifty years that tobacco has ceased to be the currency of the latter State; and a law of Virginia passed only eighteen years ago, fixes the rate at which, when any quantity of that article is expressed in the laws of the commonwealth, it shall be reduced into dollars and cents.

A sufficient portion of the Report is dedicated to the exaltation of



the Maryland plan of independent Colonizing action. It was perhaps to have been expected that the peculiar benefits of this plan should be put forward in the most attractive light, and even that the disadvantages, which, as it is merely of human creation, might without presumption be ascribed to it, should be silently passed over; but the friends of other plans of African Colonization may be excused if they were unprepared to find these family compliments ending in a denouncement of themselves. The Parent Institution, regarding rather the friendly language of the official communications made to it by the Maryland Society, than the hostile movements of individuals, however high in the confidence of the latter, must have seen with surprise the following passage of the Report:

"The Board of Managers must not be considered as saying any thing in disparagement of the American Colonization Society. To this body we are indebted for that proof without which Colonization would still be an untried scheme. The American Colonization Society has proved the practicability of establishing colonies on the coast of Africa, capable of self-support, self-defence, and self-increase, and has thereby won the praise and the everlasting thanks of the friends of Africa, of her sons and daughters, and of humanity and philanthropy. But having done this, the appropriate functions of the Society are at an end. The discordant views entertained among the friends of Colonization themselves throughout our wide country, forbid the idea of such an unity of sentiment and action in any general society as is necessary to entire success; while this very discord, which in the nature of things it would seem impossible to sooth, indicates most apparently a system of independent state action as the only one by which colonization can be successfully prosecuted."

"*The appropriate functions of the Society are at an end!*" Truly, that a local association which, respectable as it is, was but yesterday in its cradle, and which claims a population of only 300 for its Colony, should assume to annihilate an Institution that has already lasted for one generation of men, which has established in Africa communities of ten times that number; which is fixed in the affections and confidence of good and wise men in every quarter of the Union; is an enterprise, about the modesty of which there can be but one opinion, whatever may be thought of its prudence.

That the plan of separate State action has many striking advantages, among which is the capacity to enlist in its behalf local feelings and interests, we have always admitted; and in the case of Maryland particularly, we have supposed that circumstances in her condition, not incident as yet to that of any other slaveholding State in the Union, might peculiarly recommend such a course to her adoption. Nor is it denied that in every State in which the friends of African Colonization form any considerable portion of its citizens, separate efforts may be so conducted as essentially to benefit the common cause. But when the advocates of the system constitute a small minority of the population, their efficiency can be felt only in their connexion with operations not dependent on the public sentiment of the community to which they belong. One important faculty of a general and in some respects a national Society is, that it concentrates such minorities, wherever located, on a common scheme, and thus gives significance and value to fractions that would otherwise go for nothing.

Nor should it be forgotten that the Institution whose existence is menaced, has reached its present stage of advancement under the protection of a principle of its Constitution which has enabled Christians



and Philanthropists in every quarter of the Union, however differing among themselves on the Slavery question, to give to it a conscientious and animated support. That this principle will be retained in all the State Colonization Societies which under the new regime are to succeed to the original Society, is not, we suppose, expected by any body;—certainly not by the authors of the Baltimore Report, who insist so strenuously on “the discordant views entertained among the friends of Colonization themselves in our wide country.” Indeed, it seems morally certain that the Colonization theory of each of those associations will be shaped and coloured by its doctrine on the subject of slavery. The result must be a collision which may, and probably will, operate to the exclusion of the Colonizing system from those parts of the Union where the evils exist, which all agree that it alleviates, and many hope that it may remedy.

In the eye of reason it looks strange that the same authority which admits and even exaggerates the “discordant views” of Colonizationists, should propose to increase the practical mischiefs of such discordancy by making them organic:—that it should deliberately substitute a system of multiplied councils and divided strength for one which has gained signal success by concentrating the energies and harmonising the movements of its friends. The system of which the extinction is now proclaimed from the tripod, had its origin in prayer and in wisdom. It has passed through the several ordeals of ridicule in its infancy, of denunciation as it grew older and stronger, and of adversity in many periods of its history. It has been assailed by contrariant prejudices of the most angry character—it has had to contend not only with open enemies, but with inconstant friends. The result so far is before the American People, and it has found favour in their sight. An intelligent and generous nation will not, we presume, be so “dazzled by excess of light” as to become blind to its useful but unostentatious merit, even though the new lights should burn more brightly hereafter than they have yet done.

It is known to our readers, that at the last annual meeting of the Parent Institution, a plan was adopted for the future relations to each other of Colonization Societies and Settlements, which was intended to combine some advantages of separate, with other advantages of concerted action. A copy of it was forwarded at the earliest moment to the Maryland Society; but not until the Report, on a passage of which we have been remarking, had been ordered to be printed. The candor of the gentlemen at the head of the Maryland Society encourages the hope that should they approve the plan in other respects, its obnoxious feature of sparing the life of the Parent Society will not induce them to reject it. We have not, however, thought proper to wait for their decision, in entire silence under their attack on an Institution to which they acknowledge themselves to be indebted for their very existence. The attack is not the less deadly because of the prefatory compliments to its object. This is only clothing the culprit in a decent dress before he is taken out for execution. A respite is, it seems, to be granted till after the meeting of the “Central Colonization Convention.”

The officers of the Maryland State Colonization Society for the ensuing year are as follows:

**JOHN H. B. LATROBE, President.**

*Vice-Presidents.* THOS. E. BOND, SEN. LUKE TIERNAN, PETER HOFFMAN, CHARLES HOWARD, CHARLES C. HARPER, P. R. HOFFMAN.

*Managers.* HUGH D. EVANS, JOHN FONERDEN, JOHN H. BRISCOE, JOHN G. PROUD, WM. CRANE, WM. WOODWARD, WM. R. STUART, GEORGE S. GIBSON, LUTHER J. COX, WM. MASON, FRANCIS H. SMITH, GEORGE M. ROGERS.

FRANKLIN ANDERSON, *Corresponding Secretary.* WM. F. GILES, *Recording Secretary.* ROBERT MICKLE, *Treasurer.*

Rev. IRA A. EASTER, *Home Agent.* Rev. JOHN H. KENARD, *Travelling Agent.* *Managers of the Maryland State Fund, under "an act relating to the people of colour in this State," appointed by the Executive of the State of Maryland.*

CHARLES HOWARD, PETER HOFFMAN, WILLIAM R. STUART.

#### PENNSYLVANIA COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

The Colonization Herald for March 18th, contains the Report of the Board of Managers of the Young Men's Colonization Society of Pennsylvania, read at its Anniversary meeting, on the 22d of February last.

The hopes which the previous Report had held out, of the speedy settlement of Bassa Cove, have been realized. The Colonists, aided by the Governor of Liberia, resumed their possessions in December, 1835; and immediate measures were adopted for their protection against future violence. The arrival of THOMAS BUCHANAN, the new Governor of Bassa Cove, with supplies, infused joy and confidence into the minds of the settlers. From that period, down to the latest accounts, their prosperity has been uninterrupted.

Eighty-five emigrants, emancipated slaves from the West and South, sailed from New York in July last, under the immediate direction and at the expense of the New York City Colonization Society. Mr. BUCHANAN has zealously and successfully promoted the cause of temperance, agricultural pursuits, the avoidance of petty traffic, the erection of churches, and the opening of schools. Evidence of the good health, which, by using proper precautions, the Colonists have enjoyed, is presented in the fact that from the date of the re-settlement in Dec. 1835, to the latter part of Dec. 1836, when the last despatches were written, there had not been a single death in the Colony. A public farm is by this time laid out under the more immediate direction of JONAS HUMPHREYS, an industrious and intelligent Colonist who went out to Africa with Mr. BUCHANAN. In addition to gardens, the settlers are put in possession of farms, on which, can be cultivated Coffee, Sugar, Cotton, and other products of the soil. Rice can be raised in abundance on the hill sides, so as not only to meet the demand for consumption, but ultimately of trade. Dr. Skinner states that between five and six hundred acres around the village are now cleared and under cultivation. Adjoining the agency house there are about two acres of land, on which, through Mr. BUCHANAN's exertions, rice and garden vegetables, besides a quantity of coffee, papaw, pine apples, plantain and banana trees are growing.

In the spring of the last year a member of the Society visited, at his own expense, Pittsburg and its vicinity; and in six weeks the bounty of the citizens enabled him to place at the disposal of the

Society about \$7,000. A visit of the same gentleman to Harrisburg, where he addressed the Legislature, and to other parts of the State, has been attended with happy effects. Arrangements have been made to effect a union between the Young Men's Colonization Society of Pennsylvania, and the Pennsylvania Colonization Society. The last named association has the advantage of a charter from the State.

The Report exhibits a gratifying picture of the condition and prospects of the Colony at Bassa Cove. It thus notices the plan of a Federal Colonial Union.

"Already, in reference to the future destinies of the Colonies on the western coast of Africa, and as a means of facilitating their progress in civil government, a plan for a federal union among them was prepared at the last annual meeting of the American Colonization Society, held in Washington. This will give a still wider range for the exercise of mind, and an incitement to honorable ambition to the whole African race on both sides of the Atlantic. The world will henceforth be able to judge of the conduct and character of those who prefer to spend their days supinely and in want, enslaved by law in one section of the United States, and by still more powerful custom in another section, to their occupying a station and acquiring a name for themselves, and at the least a legal and constitutional protection for both themselves and their descendants, in the land of their forefathers."

We subjoin the following extract, in order to prevent by an additional statement an impression which may otherwise be made that the Parent Society had placed out of its immediate protection any portion of its Colonists without their own consent:

"By an arrangement recently made with the Parent Board at Washington, the town of Edina, on the northwest side of St. John's river, opposite to our settlement at Bassa Cove, and also a portion of land between this and Benson's river has been ceded to the two Societies of Pennsylvania and New York, and will form part of their territory, which, in proportion, as peaceful and equitable purchase is made from the native chiefs, will extend along the coast between fifty and sixty miles, and into the interior indefinitely."

In December last, the Managers of the Parent Society, in the hope of finally disposing of some vexatious questions which had arisen in their relations with the Young Men's Colonization Society of Pennsylvania and the New York City Colonization Society, entered into an agreement with the delegates of those Societies, which took the form of nine Resolutions. The first is in the following words:

"Resolved, That the proposition of the Philadelphia and New York Societies to fix the northern limit of their settlement or Colony, at a point on the sea beach five miles from the mouth of the St. John's in a northerly direction, and running in a straight line until it strikes the river St. John, about thirty miles above its mouth, and thence up the river in an easterly course, be agreed to: *Provided, That the people of Edina, now comprehended within that boundary, shall themselves give their consent to be transferred to and pass under the government and authority of the Bassa Cove or New York and Pennsylvania Colony; but in case such transfer shall be declined by the people of Edina, or a majority of them, then the river St. John shall be established as the boundary of the New York and Philadelphia Colony, excepting the islands in said river, which will then remain as part of the territory of the Parent Society.*"

It thus appears that the cession referred to in the Pennsylvania Report, instead of being absolute, was expressly conditioned on the assent of the Colonists whom it was to affect. A different course on



the part of the Parent Board would have been inconsistent, as well with its feelings as with its duty to the people of Edina. To their own *unbiased* determination it proposed to leave the decision of the question, whether they would retain or alter their existing political connexion.

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[From the *Colonization Herald*, April 1.]

The Rev. JOHN J. MATTHIAS, Pastor of Nazareth, Meth. Epis. Church of this city, has been appointed governor of Bassa Cove in Liberia, and has signified his willingness to accept of the appointment. His wife, with perhaps one or two other white persons, expect to accompany him to this new field of labor. One well acquainted with Mr. M. says; "He is truly a religious man, and is both a Christian and a gentleman; dignified in his manners, amiable in his spirit, systematic in his habits, diligent in business, full of love to God and man; in short, I know not his superior for the office, and he will be a blessing to the Colony." His weight of character, for he is extensively known and esteemed, will greatly serve the cause. His wife also is among the "excellent of the earth," and would be very useful to the colonists.

To obtain the services of such persons, appears evidently another indication of that kind Providence which has watched over and defended our infant colony; that the cause is good and will eventually triumph. The friends of Colonization will undoubtedly feel gratified with this information. We desire them to express their feelings, in aiding us to despatch a vessel within a few weeks from this port to the place of their destination.

Our country friends will please send to the office, No. 27 Sansom street, every thing intended to aid the cause as soon as practicable. All donations in books, furniture, and goods will be thankfully received. A large and convenient government house has been erected in the Colony, but it is to be furnished with all those things needful for the comfort of the Governor and his family.

Editors favorable to the cause will please to give this notice a place in their papers.

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#### NEW COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

On the 17th of February last, at a meeting of the citizens of Pittsgrove, Penn. and its vicinity, held at Pottstown, a Society called "The Pottstown Colonization Society" was formed, auxiliary to the Young Men's Col. Soc. of Pennsylvania. Three or four hundred persons were expected to join it. The following persons have been elected its officers and Managers:

GEORGE RICHARDS, *President*. ROBERT D. POWELL, JOHN H. HOBART, CHARLES H. CLAY, *Vice-Presidents*. HENRY LIGHTNER, *Corresponding Secretary*. JOHN P. HOBART, JOHN J. ROWAN, *Recording Secretaries*. CHARLES H. FRITZ, *Treasurer*. OWEN STOVEN, SAMUEL WILLAUER, WM. CARMONY, C. F. RAPP, BARTHOLOMEW WAMBACK, RICHARD CASSELBURY, HENRY LESSIG, WM. VAN GREGOR, FREDERICK LEAF, *Managers*.

It is remarkable that the New Society is said to owe its origin to the dissatisfaction of the citizens of Pottstown with some lectures which an Abolition Agent had delivered in that place.

[From the Pittsburg Christian Herald, March 23.]

**PITTSBURG COLONIZATION SOCIETY.**—The Rev. John B. Pinney, formerly missionary under the Western Foreign Missionary Society, and for some time Governor of Liberia, has been appointed Agent of the Colonization Society of Pittsburg, auxiliary to the Young Men's Colonization Society of Pennsylvania. Mr. Pinney may be expected in Pittsburg, as soon as the travelling for families becomes open and reasonably good. As Mr. P. has been so long in Liberia, occupying the station he did, he can afford more valuable information on that subject, than any other that could be expected, or perhaps any where found.

#### EMIGRANTS FOR LIBERIA.

[From the Richmond Religious Herald, March 24.]

From the Cumberland Presbyterian we learn that the Steamboat Randolph, of Nashville, left that city on the 4th inst. with 50 emigrants for Liberia, who were emancipated by the late Mr. Nicholas P. Edmiston, of Nashville.

#### OPINION OF JUDGE CATRON.

In the case of "*Fisher's negroes vs. Dabbs and others*," decided in March 1834 by the Supreme Court of Tennessee, and reported in the sixth volume of Yerger's Reports, p. 119-166, an able and elaborate opinion was delivered by the Honorable JOHN CATRON, Chief Justice of the Court, and now a judge of the Supreme Court of the United States. This opinion, apart from its intrinsic merits, the interest of the particular case, and the eminence of the learned Judge, claims the attentive consideration of all philanthropists in our country, as a judicial exposition of the principles of public policy which regulate emancipation at the South. The Court give the assent of the State of Tennessee to the emancipation of the slaves who were complainants in the case; but only on the condition of their emigration to Africa. The accuracy of the contrast drawn in the opinion between the condition of the free coloured man in Liberia, and in any of the non-slaveholding States of the Union, will be admitted by every candid mind which has had fit opportunities of observation.

As the opinion is not very long, we have determined to insert the whole of it.

Peter Fisher made his will in 1827. He had several slaves who he devised should be free; that they should have a right to reside upon his plantation for fifteen years; have laid off to them horses, cattle and farming utensils to make a support with, and a year's support from the then crop, and ten dollars in money. The balance of his property was devised to his brother's and sister's children as residuary legatees.

The testator died, and the will was duly proved and recorded.—The executors therein named did not qualify, and James Dabbs was appointed administrator with the will annexed. He refused to petition the county court to have the slaves emancipated pursuant to the will, because he would not involve himself by giving bond and security that they would not be a county charge. Thus the matter stood until the act of 1829, ch. 29, was passed, authorizing the slaves to apply to the chancery court by their next friend by bill, and giving that court jurisdiction to decree emancipation. The bill was filed and proceeded in to a decree and an appeal.

It is insisted the act of 1829 is retrospective and void as against the distributees and residuary legatees of Peter Fisher. That they by his death took a vested right in the slaves, and to the property devised to them after their emancipation, which vested right the act of 1829 gives the Chancellor no power to divest; and that the Legislature having no such power, could of course confer none on the Chancellor. If the premises be true, the conclusion is. Had the Legislature the power in 1829 to declare these slaves free persons by act of Assembly? As between Peter Fisher and his slaves, his will, on his death, was a deed of emancipation. Legislation in restraint of manumission aside, and they owed no personal services to the representatives of Peter Fisher, were as free agents as themselves, and as capable of enjoying every natural right. Being in the enjoyment of natural liberty, of course they had a right to the enjoyment of the property devised to them by their late master. The idea that a will emancipating slaves, or deed of manumission, is void in this State, is ill founded. It is binding on the representatives of the devisor in the one case, and the grantor in the other, and communicates a right to the slave; but it is an imperfect right, until the State, the community of which such emancipated person is to become a member, assents to the contract between the master and the slave. It is adopting into the body politic a new member; a vastly important measure in every community, and especially in ours where the majority of freemen over twenty one years of age, govern the balance of the people, together with themselves; where the free negro's vote at the polls is of as high value as that of any man. Degraded by their colour and condition in life, the free negroes are a very dangerous and most objectionable population where slaves are numerous. Therefore no slave can be safely freed but with the assent of the government where the manumission takes place. But this is a mere matter of public policy, with which the master or the slave cannot concern. It is an act of sovereignty, just as much as naturalizing the foreign subject. The highest act of sovereignty a government can perform, is to adopt a new member with all the privileges and duties of citizenship. To permit an individual to do this at pleasure, would be wholly inadmissible. How or when the State assents to the contract of manumission, whether before or after its execution, is beside the contract, has nothing to do with its obligation on the master or the slave, and is unrestricted by the constitution. Was there a general law authorizing all free persons to emancipate their slaves at pleasure, then the assent of the government would be given in advance of the act of the master. Such was the law in effect and practice before the passage of the act of 1777, ch. 6, to prevent domestic insurrections, and for other purposes. The act declared no slave should thereafter be set free except for meritorious services, to be adjudged of and allowed by the county court, and license first had and obtained thereupon, &c.

The county court had conferred upon it the sovereign power to give the assent of the government to the manumission, but was restricted in giving assent to especial cases, where the slave had performed some extraordinary service. This of course extended to the great mass of



slaves, and particularly to children who could not have performed any such service. To free the mother, and retain as slaves the children, often violated humanity; as did the giving freedom to the husband or wife, and retaining the other in slavery. To obviate these and such like hardships, the act of 1801, ch. 27, was passed. By this act, the county court is given as plenary power as the Legislature itself possessed, to emancipate slaves on petition of the owner; nine or a majority of the justices being present, and two thirds concurring. The court is to examine the reasons set forth by the petition, and if it be of opinion, that acceding to the same would be consistent with the interest and policy of the State, the chairman shall report the petition as granted, and sign the same; which shall be filed of record. The same power and discretion is by the act of 1829, ch. 29, conferred on the Chancellor. It is argued the Chancellor has no discretion, by the act of 1829, in cases coming within its provisions. We think it did not intend that his powers and those of the county court should differ, as either might be applied to, to execute the law. The Chancellor was not on this branch of the proceeding before him, trying a cause between the slaves of the estate of Peter Fisher and his representatives, but he was acting as the authorized deputy of the State of Tennessee, and in this capacity it lay upon him to adjudge whether it was consistent with the interest and policy of the State, that the slaves who had devised to them their freedom by Peter Fisher, should be manumitted in confirmation of the will. He determined that Washington, one of the slaves, should be freed, and that the others should not be. This was a sentence from which an appeal lay to this court. The discretion to be exercised, was a legal discretion, requiring the Chancellor to adjudge. On the appeal, it is made our duty to give such judgment or sentence, as the court below ought to have given. It rests upon us to determine what is the policy most for the interest of the community generally, and of Sumner county in particular, in this matter. That policy can best be ascertained from the act of 1831, ch. 52. The State has there spoken, and might, by that act, have given her assent to the bequest of Peter Fisher's will, as she has in other similar cases, had she seen fit; and she might in future give her assent in this case, were this court to refuse, as was in effect done in the instance of David Beatty's slaves, as will be seen in the cause of Hope vs. Johnson, 2 Yerger's Rep. 123. The policy of the act of 1831, is not to permit a free negro to come into the State from abroad; and secondly, not to permit a slave freed by our laws, to be manumitted upon any other condition than that of being forthwith transported from the State, to which, by the first section, he dare not return. We hold this law to have been every way binding on the Chancellor's discretion, and that it is so on ours. We think it is clearly inconsistent with the policy of the State, and the interest of its citizens, to give the assent of the government to the manumission of these slaves, upon any terms short of their immediate removal beyond, not only our jurisdiction, but beyond the limits of the United States of America.

The injustice of forcing our freed negroes on our sister States without their consent, when we are wholly unwilling to be afflicted

with them ourselves, is so plain and direct a violation of moral duty, as to inhibit this court from taking such a step. To treat our neighbors unjustly and cruelly, and thereby make them our enemies, is bad policy and contrary to our interest. Would it not be treating the non-slaveholding States unjustly, to force our freed negroes upon them without their consent? and would it not be treating the slaveholding States cruelly? We are ejecting this description of population, fearing it will excite rebellion among the slaves; or that the slaves will be rendered immoral to a degree of depravity inconsistent with the safety and interest of the white population. These are fearful evils. But are they not more threatening to Virginia, (just recovering from the fright of a negro rebellion,) to the Carolinas, to Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana than to us? Compared with the whites, most of them have two slaves to our one; some of them almost ten to our one. Even Kentucky has a higher proportion than Tennessee. How can we then as honest men, thrust our freed negroes on our neighbors of the south?

Suppose the non-slaveholding states north-west of the Ohio, were willing to receive our freed negroes, (a supposition by the way wholly untrue,) would it be good policy in us to locate them on our borders, beside our great rivers, forming wretched free negro colonies in constant intercourse with our slaves? They must live in neighborhoods separated from the whites. Their condition has and will preclude intermarriages and close association. That such a population inhabiting a country near us, would become a most dangerous receptacle to our runaway slaves, and a grievous affliction to the State where situated, as well as to ourselves, need only be stated to gain universal admission. The time would soon come when the attempt to seize on the harbored slaves would produce war with such a people, and serious collisions with the State within whose jurisdiction they resided. This it is our interest to avoid.

All the slaveholding states, it is believed, *as well as many of the non-slaveholding*, like ourselves, have adopted the policy of exclusion. The consequence is, the freed negro cannot find a home that promises, even safety, in the United States, and assuredly none that promises comfort. We order the present petitioners for freedom to be emancipated on the terms, that they be sent beyond the limits of the United States, for additional reasons. The act of 1833, ch. 64, to aid the Colonization Society, provides, that the treasurer of Middle Tennessee pay to the treasurer of the society for its use, ten dollars for each free black person that the treasurer of the society shall certify has been removed from the State of Tennessee to the coast of Africa. The foregoing society has formed a colony of free blacks at Liberia, on the coast of Africa. The people residing there are all from the United States, speak our language, pursue our habits, profess the christian religion, are sober, industrious, moral and contented, are enjoying a life of comfort and of equality, which it is impossible in this country to enjoy, where the black man is degraded by his colour, and sinks into vice and worthlessness, from want of motive to virtuous and elevated conduct. The black man in these States may have the power of volition. He may go and come when it pleaseth him,

without a domestic master to control the actions of his person; but to be politically free, to be the peer and equal of the white man, to enjoy the offices, trusts and privileges our institutions confer on the white man, is hopeless now and ever. The slave, who receives the protection and care of a tolerable master, holds a condition here, superior to the negro who is freed from domestic slavery. He is a reproach and a by-word with the slave himself, who taunts his fellow slave by telling him 'he is as worthless as a free negro.' The consequence is inevitable. The free black man lives amongst us without motive and without hope. He seeks no avocation, is surrounded with necessities, is sunk in degradation; crime can sink him no deeper, and he commits it of course. This is not only true of the free negro residing in the slaveholding States of this Union: in the non-slaveholding States the people are less accustomed to the squalid and disgusting wretchedness of the negro, have less sympathy for him, earn their means of subsistence with their own hands, and are more economical in parting with them, than him for whom the slave labors, of which he is entitled to share the proceeds, and of which the free negro is generally the participant, and but too often in the character of the receiver of stolen goods. Nothing can be more untrue than that the free negro is more respectable as a member of society in the non-slaveholding, than the slaveholding States. In each, he is a degraded outcast, and his fancied freedom a delusion. With us, the slave ranks him in character and comfort, nor is there a fair motive to absolve him from the duties incident to domestic slavery, if he is to continue amongst us. Generally, and almost universally, society suffers, and the negro suffers by manumission.

These are some of the reasons why we give the assent of the State to the emancipation of these slaves, in accordance to Peter Fisher's will, *upon the condition, and the condition only, that they be transported to the coast of Africa.* To the course pursued in this instance, there might be exceptions in other cases; but they should be most rare, and grounded on reasons the most prominent and conclusive.— This application furnishes none such. Bond and security will be given, partly in accordance with the second section of the act of 1831, ch. 102, conditioned, that these freed persons shall be transported to the colony of Liberia, on the coast of Africa, and which shall form part of the judgment of this court.

The act of 1831, ch. 101, in effect directed the chancery court to dismiss this cause. Chancellor Reese, in a very lucid opinion, treated the act, and justly, as an unauthorized mandate, unconstitutional and void. This court adopts that opinion, which is herewith filed.

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#### LATEST FROM LIBERIA.

It will be seen by the subjoined letter from Mr. Anthony D. Williams, Vice Agent of the Colony, which was received by the U. States ship Potomac, that he has established a public farm at Bushrod Island, under arrangements which promise much benefit to the settlers.



MONROVIA, NOV. 23, 1836.

REVEREND SIR:—I avail myself of the opportunity presented by the U. S. Ship Potomac, Capt. Nicholson, to give you a brief account of the state of things here, and of my proceedings since the departure of Dr. Skinner. You have, doubtless, ere this, heard from him, the menacing and hostile attitude which the natives of Grand Bassa had assumed, and of an expectation of an attack from them. I am happy to be able to inform you that peace and tranquility are again in a great measure restored, and that there is no longer any expectation of a rupture. Edina, however, as a precautionary measure, has been supplied with munitions of war, as far as our limited resources will admit. With a view to supply the paupers and infirm pensioners with provisions at an expense as small as possible to the Society, I have established a Public Farm on Bushrod Island, at a little distance in the direction of the Cape, from that established by Mr. Pinney. For removing the farm, I have been actuated by two reasons, which, I trust, will be regarded as sufficient apology. First, the superior fertility of the soil in the new site; and secondly, a conviction that the further the farm should be from the settlement, the less would be that unhappy influence which I am apprehensive they would exert on those whom I might put upon it. This change, however, will cause a very considerable additional expense. There being no houses on the old farm, and its being very imperfectly cleared, enables me to improve the new one at a cost almost the same that it would require to improve the other. As I intend to cultivate the farm by the labour of the paupers as far as it can be done by them, I am making arrangements for them to reside on the spot. For this purpose, I have caused one of the old receptacles which was at Caldwell, to be removed to the farm, and it is expected it will be ready in a few days for the reception of the people. This house was in a state of decay, and required immediate extensive repairs to preserve it from falling. The farm is already in a state of forwardness, and I hope in a very short time to be able to feed the people entirely upon its productions. All persons fed by the Society will be placed here, and those whose health will permit it, will be made to work regularly. Any refusing to do so, will be thrown at once upon their own resources. It is desirable that the Society should send as soon as possible, a supply of Cotton, Cotton Cards, and Looms. I am fully of the opinion that the poor might be supplied with clothing made at the farm, if these articles were in hand. We are also much in want of mules and horses. The farm will require a superintendent; a man of sober, steady habits and good moral character. Such a one I am endeavouring to obtain; he will probably cost \$350 to \$400 a year.—The settlement at Marshall progresses slowly. You have, doubtless, heard of the appointment of Mr. Revey as superintendent there. This appointment was made by Dr. Skinner. You will perceive by the Inventory carried home by Dr. Skinner, how entirely we are out of every kind of goods suitable for purchasing Rice, paying for labour, or for any other purpose. I shall, therefore, be under the necessity of drawing upon your Treasurer to meet the necessary and unavoidable expenses of the Colony.—The stipulations between old Mamma and Mr. Ashmun, for Bushrod Island, have never been entirely fulfilled on the part of the Society. The children for whom old Mamma held this land in trust, are in Sierra Leone, and now of legal age to transact their own business. They have become very desirous that the amount due should be paid, and have written repeatedly on the subject. Some of the largest and most prosperous farms we have, are on this Island; and as I have no means of settling the balance but by a draft on you, I fear I shall have to increase the amount of drafts by including this balance. The amount yet due is about two hundred dollars. Nothing, however, shall drive me to this measure until I hear from you, but an apprehension that they are making some other disposition of the land. The health of the Colony is good, perhaps better than at any former period.

Your obedient servant,

Rev. R. R. Gurley.

A. D. WILLIAMS, A. A. C. S.

*Extract of a letter from Hilary Teage, Colonial Secretary, dated  
Monrovia, November 24, 1836.*

"This I regard as the most eventful period in the history of the Colony. Its very existence depends on the movements that are now made, and upon the assistance it receives from abroad. Assistance in the way of support from the poor is a trifling object, compared with that which would enable us to keep out

"slavers, and turn the attention of the natives to honourable and legitimate pursuits. This would be striking pauperism at the root. The Colony would thrive and prosper, and its friends abroad would have little else to do but to rejoice in the full and triumphant accomplishment of their labours." "From Captain Nicholson the Colony has received considerable assistance in the way of supplies. He seems to take a deep interest in the Colony, and has been at no small pains to obtain an account of the true state of affairs. His report, therefore, will be of importance to the Colony, and I trust, cheering to its friends."

#### LIBERIA HERALD.

The last arrival from the Colony brought the Liberia Herald for October and November, 1836. This paper increases in vigor and interest; and will we hope receive the aid which the Editor, Mr. Teage, states to be so much needed. We proceed to make copious extracts from it.

##### *Extracts from the Editor's Address to his Patrons.*

"It is now, nearly two years, since we undertook to conduct the Liberia Herald. What success has attended our undertaking, we leave to our Patrons and Friends to decide. Knowing our incompetency to conduct it, in a manner answerable, to the expectation, generally awakened, by a publication of the description, we endeavoured in the commencement to forestall criticism, and bespeak indulgence, by at once declaring our consciousness of incompetency. We were aware that professed critics from their high elevation, generally look with dignified indifference on those puny scribblers that have the honesty openly to avow to their inferiority. On a mark so mean, they will not expend their quiver." "Our solicitations with regard to public indulgence having been granted, it would be unpardonable, if we did not endeavour to render our effusions and lucubrations more worthy of public notice. We say lucubrations, for whatever time and facilities our brother editors may possess in other parts of the world, to render their productions worthy of public patronage, we have but one season which we can devote to ours; and that the solitude of night. And even then, a thousand things of the most discordant nature, which have demanded our attention during the past, or presenting themselves in anticipation of the rising day, render us more fit for any thing than for writing. Another most unfortunate circumstance, incident to our situation, is the sameness of events; the tameness with which nature rolls on in her unbroken course. Here are no striking events, with which to vary and enliven the dull and monotonous narration of ordinary life. No mobs affording columns of matter in accounts of heads broke,—houses rifled,—magistrates resisted,—laws defied, or any other of those brilliant events which generally mark the reign of mobocracy. To this degree of refinement, the citizens of Liberia have not as yet arrived; it is left, therefore, to some more fortunate Editor to describe them, when futurity shall bring them forth.

"Another fruitful source, possessed by the fraternity in older and well regulated countries, we are unhappily deprived of, namely, the privilege of arraigning and abusing public men and measures. This glorious resource affords abundant matter for many an otherwise vacant column, and seems, by almost universal consent of both writers and readers, to have grown into a standing dish, so that when the barrenness of the intellectual market will yield nothing else, the subscribers are sure to be served with a dish of the "dernier resort," which reminds us of the old adage "Neck or nothing." It is not perhaps from a virtuous disposition in us, or that we write with a pen less wayward than others, that we do not make occasional drafts on this fruitful source, but rather because our men and measures are known within a circle so circumscribed, that any thing we could say with respect to them, would be uninteresting to our distant readers."

"We shall, if opportunity permits, pay more attention to the natural history and products of the country, as well as occasionally notice the peculiarities in the manners and customs of the natives. We cannot close without saying to our Patrons, how much we are in want of paper and types. The paper we are obliged to use, was originally of the coarsest description, and is almost entirely ruined by the effects of the climate. And our type is of such soft yielding metal that it will barely make an impression. In addition to which, it is the most unsuitable size.

Should our friends supply us with these desirables, we pledge all the ability and industry we can muster, to render our "Folio of four pages" worthy of their attention."

PUBLIC MEETING, WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 29, 1856.

"Pursuant to notice the citizens of Monrovia met in the public school-house, J. C. Barbour, Esq. in the chair, and Mr. Wm. N. Lewis, Secretary. Mr. S. Benedict, was requested to state the object of the meeting, who said, that it was to record a resolution expressive of our opinion of Colonization.

On motion of Rev. J. Revey,

1. *Resolved*, That this meeting entertain the warmest gratitude, for what the American Colonization Society has done for the people of colour, and for us particularly, and that we regard the scheme as entitled to the highest confidence of every man of colour.

On motion of S. Benedict, Esq.

2. *Resolved*, That we return our grateful acknowledgements to Gerrit Smith, A. Tappan, Esqs. and other early and devoted friends of Colonization, names for which, we shall ever cherish the highest esteem; that we hear with regret, from misrepresentation or want of accurate information, they have abandoned the noble scheme; but that we hope the day is not far distant, in which they will again reunite their energies to advance the high and benevolent object.

On motion of Mr. H. Teage,

3. *Resolved*, That this meeting regard the Colonization Institution, as one of the highest, holiest, and most benevolent enterprizes of the present day. That, as a plan, for the melioration of the condition of the coloured race, it takes the precedence of all that have been presented to the attention of the modern world.—That in its operations, it is peaceful and safe, in its tendencies, beneficial and advantageous. That it is entitled to the highest veneration, and unbounded confidence of every man of colour. That what it has already accomplished, demands our devout thanks, and gratitude to those noble and disinterested Philanthropists who compose it, as being under God, the greatest earthly benefactors of a despised and oppressed portion of the human family.

The hour being late, on motion of Rev. B. R. Wilson,

*Resolved*, That the meeting be adjourned until to-morrow, 10 o'clock, A. M. to the First Baptist Meeting House.

Thursday 10th. Met according to adjournment.

On motion of James Brown, Esq.

4. *Resolved*, That the thanks of this meeting be presented to those Ladies of the United States, particularly those of New York, Philadelphia and Richmond, for their disinterested efforts to educate the children of this Colony; and that they be assured, that in no department of the Colony do the effects of Colonization shine more conspicuously than in the schools supported by their benevolence.

On motion of Dr. J. W. Prout,

5. *Resolved*, That this meeting entertain a grateful remembrance of General Robert G. Harper of Baltimore, an early and devoted friend of Colonization; also the name of the late Daniel Murray, Esq. of Baltimore, and that we regard the Colonization Society and its friends as powerfully efficient in elevating the man of colour.

Whereas it has been widely and maliciously circulated, in the United States of America, that the inhabitants of this Colony, are unhappy in their situation, and anxious to return,

On motion of the Rev. B. R. Wilson,

6. *Resolved*, That the report is false and malicious, and originated only in a design to injure the Colony, by calling off the support and sympathy of its friends; that so far from a desire to return, we would regard such an event, as the greatest calamity that could befall us.

On motion of Rev. G. R. McGill,

7. *Resolved*, That the name of the Rev. R. R. Gurley, ought never to be forgotten.

On motion of S. Benedict, Esq.

8. *Resolved*, That we entertain lively feelings of gratitude towards H. R. Sheldon, Esq. for his munificent donation towards the erection of a high school in this Colony.

On motion of Mr. Uriah Tyner,

9. *Resolved*, That the thanks of this meeting, are due to the members of the Co-



lonization Society, for their unwearied zeal to promote the interests of this community.

On motion of Mr. Lewis Cyples,

10. *Resolved*, That this meeting entertain the highest respect for the memory of the late Thomas S. Grimke, of South Carolina for his persevering efforts in behalf of the Colonization Society.

On motion of Rev. Amos Herring,

11. *Resolved*, That this meeting entertain the deepest gratitude for the members of the Colonization Society, for the organization and continuation of an enterprize, so noble and praiseworthy as that of restoring to the blessings of liberty, hundreds and thousands of the sore oppressed and long neglected sons of Africa; that we believe it the only institution that can, under existing circumstances, succeed in elevating the coloured population; and that advancement in agriculture, mechanism, and science, will enable us speedily to aspire to a rank with other nations of the earth.

On motion of Mr. H. B. Matthews,

12. Success to the *wheels* of Colonization; may they roll over every oppressor, and roll on, until all the oppressed sons of Africa shall be rolled *home*!

On motion of Mr. David Moor,

13. *Resolved*, That we recollect with peculiar satisfaction, the active part which the benevolent, in the State of Mississippi, has taken in the welfare of this Colony.

On motion of Major L. R. Johnson,

14. *Resolved*, That this meeting cherish the most grateful remembrance of the name of the late Rev. Robert Finley, of New Jersey, the founder and indefatigable patron of this Colony.

On motion of J. J. Roberts, Esq.

15. *Resolved*, That the thanks of this meeting be presented to the friends of this Colony in England.

On motion of Mr. Dixon B. Brown,

*Resolved*, That the resolutions of this meeting be published in the *Liberia Herald*.

**REVENUE.**—It appears from the accounts of the Collector and Treasurer, that the amount of the revenue, for the year ending, 28th of September, is about *three thousand five hundred dollars*. We are pained to say, however, that notwithstanding this amount considerably exceeds the expenditures of that department of the Colonial Government which falls under the cognizance of the Colonial Council, as appears by an official document lately published by the Ex-Vice Agent, the Treasury is considerably in debt. This is a mystery, which in justice to the people, should be cleared up; and we hope those that administered affairs at the time these debts were contracted, will put a quietus to the general murmuring, by promptly and satisfactorily explaining it. We are pleased, however, in being able to state, that the Treasury is again looking up. At the first session of the Vice Agent and Council, elected for this year, they, with a generosity and patriotism than cannot be too highly commended, unanimously agreed to render their services without fee or reward; thus giving incontestable evidence, that their object in accepting the high and responsible trust confided to them by their countrymen, was not a desire of gain, but solely to retrieve the almost ruined condition into which affairs have been plunged. The acts appropriating money to the Vice Agent and Council, in the shape of pay, except to such councillors as reside out of this settlement, they have, by one patriotic vote, swept from the Council Book, as "stains and blots that darken and disgrace" the records of a poor and infant republic. We have heard it whispered, that the present administration has already done more to relieve the Treasury, than was done in years before. We wish them all the success and all the honour, to which their generous and patriotic exertions entitle them.

**PIRATES.**—It is with pain, that we have to notice another piratical vessel on our coast. The schooner *Caldwell* from this place to Edina, was overhauled by a Brig under Spanish colors, and carried by her some distance to sea. The *Caldwell*, when she first espied the brig, was close under the land. The brig ran in sufficiently near to speak her, and commanded the Captain to follow him, saying he had "*some palaver to talk*." The *Caldwell* did so, until the darkness of night enabled her to alter her course, unperceived by the pirate. When the Captain of the *Caldwell* manifested some reluctance to follow, the Commander of the pirate threaten-

ed to fire into him. Said vessel is a full rigged Brig, mounting from 18 to 20 guns, and about 130 men on board — *October, 1836.*

**MARINE LIST—PORT OF MONROVIA, OCTOBER 1836.**

Arrived, since our last: On the 28th, Portuguese brig —, from the windward, French brig — Provensee, from France. 2d inst. brig Mary Polina, Taylor, 42 days from N. York. Schooner Caroline, Bancroft, from the windward. 6th inst. brig Ruth, Taylor, from the leeward. 18th inst. brig James, from Baltimore. 22d inst. British brig St. George, Hazell, from London, with W. Hutton, Esq. Agent of the Western African Company.

Sailed on the 30th ult. Portuguese brig —, for the windward. 2d inst. French brig —, Provensee, for the leeward. Brig Mary Polina, Taylor, for the windward. 5th inst. schr. Caroline, Bancroft, for the leeward. 10th inst. brig Ruth, Taylor, for the windward. 23d inst. brig Jason, for the leeward.

**NOVEMBER 1836.**—Arrived, since our last: On the 31st ult. brig Mary Polina, Taylor, from the windward. 12th inst. Portuguese brig Loisa, from the leeward. 19th inst. brig Ruth, Taylor, from the windward. 26th inst. United States Frigate Potomac, J. J. Nicholson, Esq. Commander, from the Mediterranean. 30th inst. British brig Guineaman.

Sailed on the 29th ult. British brig St. George, Hazell, for the leeward. 12th inst. schooner Caroline, for the leeward. 17th inst. Portuguese brig Loisa, for the leeward. 26th inst. U. States Frigate Potomac, J. J. Nicholson, Esq. Commander, for the leeward.

**AFRICAN IMPROVEMENT.**—In conversation the other day, it was observed, that the Colony was retrogressing. Happening to be passing up street we noticed an iron railing with brass knobs, being put up in front of the house of the Rev. Elijah Johnson.

**MARRIAGES.**—In Monrovia on the 15th Sept. by the Rev. AMOS HERRING, Mr. RICHARD SAUNDERS, to Mrs. CHARLOTTE BARNE; both of this place.

On the 25th Oct. by the Rev. ABRAHAM CHEESMAN, Mr. JAMES R. OLIVER, to Mrs. SARAH DUNGEE, both of this town.

On the 24th November by Mr. H. TEAGE, Mr. LEWIS CYPLES, to Miss ELIZABETH EDEN, both of this town.

**DEATHS.**—On the 5th of Sept. Mrs. SIBBY ROGERS, relic of the late Mr. ABRAHAM ROGERS, aged 73 years.

**Melancholy Accident.**—On the morning of the 31st, Oct. Mr. RALPH NEWPORT, was drowned, by the upsetting of a canoe, in going on board schooner Caroline.

In this town, on the 9th Nov. Mr. JACOB PRESTON.

On the 24th Mr. THOMAS BANCROFT, master of the schooner Caroline.

On the 26th LEWIS CYPLES, jr.

**ELECTION RETURNS.**—Official returns of the annual election of Civil Officers, held in the different Settlements in the Colony, on the 30th and 31st of Aug. 1836.

Anthony D. Williams, *Vice-Agent*. Councillors—John Revey, John Hanson, Colin Teage, Samuel Benedict, James Brown, Jeremiah Nixon. John W. Roberts, *High Sheriff*. Jacob W. Prout, *Register of Liberia*. Committee of Health for Monrovia—Edward Stokes, Charles Butler. Committee of Health for Caldwell—Calvert Butler, Richard Spelman. Committee of Health for Millsburg—Henry Russ, Samuel Delany.

The above named persons, having been returned by the Sheriff, as duly elected to the several offices to which their names are affixed, I call upon all the inhabitants of this Colony to respect and obey them in all their legally authorized commands.

EZEKIEL SKINNER, A. A. C. S.

H. TEAGE, C. S.

God save the Commonwealth.

**APPOINTMENTS.**—J. W. Prout, Esq. is appointed by the Agent, Notary Public for Liberia.

The Acting Agent and Council have been pleased to make the following appointments, Captain L. R. Johnson to be Major. Lieutenant J. J. Roberts, Brigade Inspector. John M. Savage of Edina, to be Commissary of Edina.

## AFRICAN WARS.

Among several interesting articles in the last *Liberia Herald* for which we cannot make room in the present number, is a statement concerning the wars now raging among the native tribes contiguous to Liberia. On the commencement of hostilities between the Dey and Gorah tribes, a slave factory well supplied was established in the capital town of each tribe. Both of the towns have been sacked, each tribe prevailing in its turn. The slavers were also taken, and led away among the numerous captives, with a view to their perpetual captivity. They will be redeemed, but at an enormous price.

**THE RONDOUT.**—We have received advices that the Brig Rondout arrived safely at Monrovia early in February last, and that Dr. D. F. BACON, who went out as principal Colonial Physician, with Dr. W. TAYLOR, his assistant, and the emigrants on board, landed in good health. Capt. HOWLAND, master of the Rondout, was obliged, in consequence of sickness, to stop at the Island of St. Thomas, in the West Indies.

## COLONIZATION MEETINGS.

The *Pittsburgh Christian Herald* of March 11th contains an account of a meeting of the "*Colonization Society of New Athens and vicinity*," held on the 22d of February last, at which the following Resolutions were adopted:

*Resolved*, That this Society engage to afford a complete education to one young man of colour, of promising capabilities and piety, with the view that when thus qualified, he may go forth as a tutor of the youth, or a Herald of the Cross, to the aid of the cause of civil and religious liberty upon the coast of Africa. Also,

*Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed to make all necessary provisions for carrying into effect the object of the above resolution.

It is proposed that the individual whose education and employment are contemplated shall prosecute his studies at Franklin College, New Athens, Ohio. Information tending to aid in the selection of a suitable person is to be addressed to JOHN ARMSTRONG at that place.

On the 22d of February last a meeting of the *Lancaster County (Penn.) Colonization Society* was held, at which addresses were made by R. CONYNGHAM, and W. F. BRYAN, and on motion of the latter gentleman several resolutions were adopted. The proceedings of the meeting, which were of a very interesting character, will appear in our next.

On Friday, March 17, 1837, a large public meeting was held in the Capitol at *Richmond, Virginia*, to hear statements from the Rev. Mr. ROCKWELL, a Chaplain of the U. S. Navy, who recently visited Liberia. The Hall of the House of Delegates, at which the meeting was held, was, says the *Southern Religious Telegraph* of the 24th ult. "literally thronged on the occasion, crowded to overflowing. "SIDNEY S. BAXTER, one of the Vice-Presidents of the Virginia "Colonization Society, took the chair."

The *Telegraph* furnishes the following report of the proceedings: The object of the meeting was announced by the Chair. The Rev. Mr. Rockwell then rose and made a statement at length, embracing many particulars, relative to the condition and prospects of the Colony. Its prosperity far exceeded his expectations. The trade of Monrovia had been checked, or rather interrupted,



by wars between some of the tribes in the interior—but the agricultural operations at Millsburg, New Georgia, and the other settlements, and the schools and churches were flourishing. The colonists were in good health—and the causes of mortality among the early emigrants were so well understood that there is now comparatively little danger to new settlers. There had not been a single instance of death in the last company of emigrants, about 40 or 50 in number, who had been there several months. Of the reinforcement previous to that, of about 50 emigrants, only three had died, one of whom was an infant. Mr. Rockwell stated that he found the people universally contented. He asked many if they did not wish to return to live in the United States; and in all cases received a negative answer. At length he found an afflicted mother, who had been reared as a house servant in one of the best families of a neighboring State. She went to Africa a few years since with her two children, leaving her husband in this country. One of her children she had committed to the grave, and one only was left. Here said Mr. R. "I thought I had found the person for whom I had been looking—one who would choose to return to this country." But he was disappointed. This woman in her affliction, dependant on her labor for subsistence and for the support of her surviving child, would by no means be willing to return to this country as her home. Mr. Rockwell was followed by Rev. Mr. Gurley, Secretary of the Am. Col. Society, who addressed the meeting in his own felicitous manner, on the general subject and the want of funds which the Society now experiences—to enable it to send out the hundreds of emigrants, who are anxiously waiting for an opportunity to embark for the land of their fathers.

## CONTRIBUTIONS

*To the American Col. Society, from Feb. 25, to March 25, 1837.**Gerrit Smith's Plan of Subscription.*

Thomas Emerson, Vermont, his 6th instalment, - - - - -	\$100
John M'Donogh, New Orleans, 6th do - - - - -	100

*Collections in Churches, &c.*

Alleghany County, Pa. Raccoon Congregation, by Rev. Moses Allen, -	11
Trenton, N. Jersey, in 1st Church, by Rev. Eli F. Cooley, -	4

*Donations.*

Athens, Georgia, Sunday School Union, - - - - -	6
Concord, Mass. Hon. Samuel Hoar, - - - - -	50
Fredericksburg, Va. Mrs. Helen Grinnan, by Rev. R. R. Gurley, -	10
Mrs. Minor and Son, do - - - - -	5
Granville, Ohio, Sereno Wright, - - - - -	10
Salem Mass. Oliver Parsons, by Hon. S. C. Phillips, - - - - -	25
Rev. S. M. Worcester, do - - - - -	15

*Auxiliary Societies.*

Ashtabula, Ohio, Col. Society, H. R. Garland, Tr'r. by Hon. E. Whittlesy, - - - - -	23
Pittsgrove, N. Jersey, Female Society, by Rev. Geo. W. Janvier, - -	10
Putnam, Ohio, Col. Society, H. Safford, Tr'r. by Hon. Elias Howell, -	50
Virginia, do by B. Brand, Tr'r. - - - - -	390

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\$809*African Repository.*

Dr. Wilkins, Clarksville, Tenn. per Hon. C. Johnson, - - -	\$2
James Russell, Bolivar, Alabama, per Hon. R. Chapman, - - -	5
David Dunwoody, Mercersburg, Pa. per Hon. Geo. Chambers, - -	12
Robert Noll, Perry C. H. Alabama, per Hon. Mr. Lawler, - - -	9
Rev. Christian Schultz, Maysville, Ky. per Hon. E. B. Hanegan, -	12
A. P. Waugh, Greenville, Pa. per Hon. John J. Pearson, - - -	2
Estate of Michl. Myerhoaffer, Rockingham County, Va. per R. Kemper,	10
Timothy Merril, Montpelier, Vermont, per Hon. H. F. Janes, - -	14
Samuel Rhea, Bluntsville, Tenn. - - - - -	2
Athens (Geo.) Union Sabbath School, - - - - -	4
H. R. Smythe \$4, Virgil Hillyer \$2, per Edwd. Connelly, Utica, Ohio,	6
E. Easton, Agent, - - - - -	100







### *Constitution of the American Colonization Society.*

ART. 1. This Society shall be called "The American Society for colonizing the Free People of Color of the United States."

ART. 2. The object to which its attention is to be exclusively directed, is to promote and execute a plan for colonizing (with their own consent) the Free People of Color, residing in our country, in Africa, or such other place as Congress shall deem most expedient. And the Society shall act, to effect this object, in co-operation with the General Government, and such of the States as may adopt regulations upon the subject.

ART. 3. Every Citizen of the United States, who shall have paid to the funds of the Society a sum of not less than thirty dollars, shall be a member for life.

ART. 4. The officers of the Society shall be a President, Vice Presidents, one or more Secretaries, who shall devote their whole time to the service of the Society; a Treasurer, a Recorder, and a Board of Managers, composed of the Secretaries, the Treasurer, the Recorder, and nine other members of the Society. They shall be annually elected by the Society, at their annual meeting, on the first Tuesday after the second Monday in December, and continue to discharge their respective duties till others are appointed.

ART. 5. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of the Society, and to call meetings when he thinks necessary.

ART. 6. The Vice Presidents, according to seniority, shall discharge the duties in the absence of the President.

ART. 7. The Secretaries and Treasurer shall execute the business of the Society, under the direction of the Board of Managers, the Treasurer giving such security for the faithful discharge of his duties as the Board may require. The Recorder shall record the proceedings and names of the members, and discharge such other duties as may be required of him.

ART. 8. The Board of Managers shall meet on the fourth Monday in January, every year, and at such other times as they may direct. They shall conduct the business of the Society, and take such measures for effecting its object as they shall think proper, or shall be directed at the meetings of the Society, and make an annual report of their proceedings. They shall also fill up all vacancies, occurring during the year, and make such by-laws for their government as they may deem necessary, provided the same are not repugnant to this Constitution.

No officer shall vote on any question in which he is personally interested.

ART. 9. Every Society which shall be founded in the United States to aid in the object of this Association, and which shall co-operate with its funds for the purposes thereof, agreeably to the Rules and Regulations of this Society, shall be considered auxiliary thereto, and shall be entitled to be represented by its delegates, not exceeding five, in all meetings of the Society.

### **The African Repository**

Can now be had, from its commencement, on application to the Publisher, or Mr. John Kennedy, Washington City, either bound or in numbers; several numbers having been reprinted.

## Resolutions of the Board.

The following Resolutions in regard to a distribution of the African Repository and Colonial Journal, have been adopted by the Board of Managers.

Monday, December 22, 1828.

*Resolved*, That after the 1st of March next, the African Repository shall be sent to all such Clergymen as have this year taken up collections on or about the 4th of July for the Society, and shall be continued to them as long as they shall continue annually to take up collections.

*Resolved*, That all the subscribers on the plan of Gerrit Smith, Esq. shall be also entitled to the work.

*Resolved*, That all Life Members of the Society shall, if they request it, be entitled to the work for the period of three years.

*Resolved*, That every Annual Subscriber to the Society of ten dollars or more, shall also be entitled to the Repository.

*Resolved*, That the Repository be sent to the Superintendent of each Sunday-School, which shall annually take up a collection for the Society."

## NOTICE.

It is requested that all collections, donations, or subscriptions to the American Colonization Society, be transmitted by mail, if no private opportunity offers, to JOSEPH GALE, Sen'r. Esq. Treasurer of the Society, Washington City; with whom the collecting Agents of the Society will also correspond. With the collections in the churches, the Society expects to receive the names of the Clergymen of the several congregations in which they were made.

All communications relating to the general interests of the Society, or the Editorial Department of the Repository, to be directed to R. R. GURLEY, Secretary, Washington.

All communications, relating to the pecuniary concerns of the Repository, to be directed to JAMES C. DUNN, Washington, D. C.

## Agents for the African Repository.

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